



DAVID SANDERS, PH.D.
Director

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

September 9, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN
AND FAMILY SERVICES (DCFS) TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES (THE COMMISSION)
FOR A HOUSING SPECIALIST
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)(3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of DCFS to transfer at no net County Cost (NCC) a lump sum in the amount of \$99,900 (ninety-nine thousand nine hundred dollars) in Independent Living Program (ILP) funds for FY 2003-04; and \$99,900 annually in the next two fiscal years, contingent upon the allocation of funds for this position in DCFS' FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06 budgets, up to the maximum of \$299,700, for the salary and benefits for one Housing Specialist.
2. Authorize the Director of DCFS to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the annual transfer of a maximum of \$99,900 annually for fiscal years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 from DCFS to the Commission to fund a Housing Specialist.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to authorize the transfer of ILP housing funds to the Commission to fund a Housing Specialist who will be responsible for obtaining and developing additional housing resources for emancipating youth.

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommended actions are consistent with furthering the principles of the County Strategic Plan by improving the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County as measured by the achievements in the following outcome area: economic well-being; (Goal # 5: Children and Families' Well-Being, Strategy #1 fully implement integrated service delivery initiatives to demonstrate substantial progress toward achieving improved outcomes for children and families).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost of the requested action is \$99,900 annually, for a maximum of \$299,700 which is 100% reimbursed by federal funding through the State ILP allocation to DCFS at no NCC. The funds are included in the DCFS FY 2003-04 Budget.

The retention of a Housing Specialist for the next two fiscal years will be contingent upon the amount of ILP funds available for housing in FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 (also known as the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program) allocates funds to serve foster youth and emancipated foster youth up to the age of 21 in order to help prepare youth for independent living. Up to 30 percent of the annual ILP allocation may be used for housing related costs to assist emancipated foster youth to live independently.

The Housing Specialist's primary responsibilities shall consist of guiding the development of major new housing initiatives for DCFS, coordination of departmental efforts to develop new housing programs operated by the Commission and DCFS, and securing State, federal and private funding designed to assist homeless foster and former foster youth.

DCFS and the Commission will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding transferring these funds to the Commission.

The Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and County Counsel have reviewed and approved this Board letter.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Housing Specialist will secure additional Housing and Urban Development Supportive Housing Program grants to build and lease apartments which will expand the County's transitional housing program for emancipated youth.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of this request, please instruct the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to send an adopted copy of this Board Letter to:

1. Department of Children and Family Services
Att: Walter Chan, Contract Manager
425 Shatto Place, Ste. 200
Los Angeles, CA 90020
2. Department of Children and Family Services
Att: Michael Olenick, Division Chief
Emancipation Services
3530 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 400
Los Angeles, CA 90010
3. Office of the County Counsel
Children's Services Division
Att: Rosemarie Belda, Principal Deputy County Counsel
201 Centre Plaza Drive, Ste.1
Monterey Park, CA 91754
4. Community Development of the County of Los Angeles
Att: Syed Rushdy, Director, Housing Development
and Preservation Division
2 Coral Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91755

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.
Director

DS:MO:cmw

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors